



NEWS RELEASE

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HUDGENS ANNOUNCES ARSON ARREST IN TELFAIR COUNTY

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens and the Telfair County Sheriff's office said a suspect was arrested today in connection with a fire that destroyed an automobile.

Hudgens said Lewis J. Vaughn, 53, of 11 Strozier Street, McRae, Ga., was charged with first-degree arson, false reporting of a crime and insurance fraud for allegedly setting fire to his 2006 Chevy Malibu.

The Chevy Malibu, valued at \$7,500, was destroyed on Feb. 3. The vehicle was burned off of Highway 149 in Telfair County. On Feb. 4, Vaughn reported the vehicle stolen and later filed an insurance claim with KnightBrook Insurance Company, Hudgens said.

Vaughn is currently being held in the Telfair County Detention Center.

First-degree arson is a felony with a penalty of one to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$50,000.